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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
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09/476,633 12/31/99 WANG

L 042390.F7832

EXAMINER

MM91/0419

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP
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| GARCIA, J | |
|-----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |

2823

DATE MAILED:


04/19/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Advisory Action

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Application No. 09/476,633 | Applicant(s) Wang et al |
| Examiner Joannie Adelle Garcia | Art Unit 2823 |



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 4/9/01 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid the abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

THE PERIOD FOR REPLY [check only a) or b)]

- a) The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) In view of the early submission of the proposed reply (within two months as set forth in MPEP § 706.07 (f)), the period for reply expires on the mailing date of this Advisory Action, OR continues to run from the mailing date of the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for the reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____ Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. The proposed amendment(s) will be entered upon the timely submission of a Notice of Appeal and Appeal Brief with requisite fees.
3. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
- (a) they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search. (See NOTE below);
 - (b) they raise the issue of new matter. (See NOTE below);
 - (c) they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) they present additional claims without cancelling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: See attachment

4. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s):

5. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in separate, timely filed amendment cancelling the non-allowable claim(s).
6. The a) affidavit, b) exhibit, or c) request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See attachment
7. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
8. For purposes of Appeal, the status of the claim(s) is as follows (see attached written explanation, if any):
Claim(s) allowed: none
Claim(s) objected to: none
Claim(s) rejected: 1-4 and 6-22
9. The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ a) has b) has not been approved by the Examiner.
10. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
11. Other:

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Applicant is required to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.121 in making amendments. In the amendment filed 4-9-01, applicant is required to submit clean (with no underlining and bracketing) amended claims with an instruction to substitute it for the pending claims with the same number.

Correction is required.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-15, and 18-20, remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grumbine et al, and further in view of the following comment.

The rejection is maintained as stated in the Office Action mailed 2-6-01, and as stated below.

Applicant's argument are not persuasive because they rely on the proposed amendment which has not been entered.

Claims 8, 16, 17, 21, and 22, remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grumbine et al as applied to claim 1-4, 6, 7, 9-11, 13-15, 18, and 20 above, and further in view of Robinson et al, and the following comment.

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Applicant's argument are not persuasive because they rely on the proposed amendment which has not been entered.

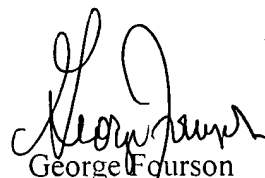
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956. See MPEP 203.08.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner J. Garcia whose telephone number is (703) 306-5733. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wael Fahmy can be reached on (703) 308-4918. The fax number for this group is (703) 308-7722 (and 7724), and (703) 305-3431 (and 3432). MPEP 502.01 contains instructions regarding procedures used in submitting responses by facsimile transmission.



JAG
April 16, 2001



George Fourson
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2823